

Parker River National Wildlife Refuge

2017 Deer Hunt Information

A controlled white-tailed deer hunt has been scheduled for Wednesday, December 6, 2017, at Parker River National Wildlife Refuge, Newburyport, Massachusetts. As an integral part of the refuge's comprehensive wildlife management program, this annual hunt helps to maintain the deer population at a level commensurate with the available habitat while providing recreational opportunities for the hunting public.

How to Apply

The hunt is by refuge permit only, with a maximum of 35 hunters, including up to 4 disabled hunters, selected by lottery. Each hunt applicant must submit a Parker River Deer Hunt application form. The applicant also has the option of designating a second hunter on the same application if he/she wants to hunt with that second hunter on the same day of the hunt. The same information should be provided for the second hunter.

A disabled hunter may also have an assistant with them who is not allowed to hunt and whose name and other information should not be included on the application. Hunters should check the "disabled" box on their application form so as to ensure entry into the disabled hunt lottery.

Application Restrictions:

- If the secondary hunter is under 16 years old, the primary hunter must be at least 18 years old.
- A hunter's name can appear on **ONLY** one application. The same name(s) on multiple applications will cause all applications containing those names to be rejected.

Hunt permit applications will be accepted at Parker River National Wildlife Refuge, 6 Plum Island Turnpike, Newburyport, MA, 01950 from September 1 thru COB on September 30. Applications may also be emailed to parkerriver@fws.gov or faxed to (978) 465-2807.

Selectees will be notified by October 10. All hunt participants must attend a one hour Refuge Hunter Safety & Orientation Program and will be provided the dates of the training when they receive notification of their selection. Both sessions will be held at refuge headquarters. Successful applicants will also be allowed to scout the refuge prior to the hunt and will be notified of the scout dates when notified about the orientation dates. The hunt permit fee is free for hunters aged 17 and younger, \$10 for hunters aged 62 and older, and \$20 for hunters aged 18-61.

The hunt zone will be comprised of approximately 1400 acres on the Plum Island section of the refuge. To ensure public safety, the entire Plum Island section will be closed to all other activities on the day of the hunt.

For further information about the deer hunt, please contact the refuge at (978) 465-5753. Refuge headquarters is located at 6 Plum Island Turnpike, Newburyport, MA 01950. Office hours are Monday - Friday, 8:00 am – 4:00 pm, excluding federal holidays.